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ABSTRACT

The 1981 report describes current activities, publications and films, sources of financial support, and organizational overview of the University for Man (UFM), founded in 1967 in Manhattan, Kansas, on the concept of citizens learning from each other and involving themselves to affect their community. The organization is divided into three program units: local Manhattan campus and community programs, state outreach, and appropriate technology. During 1980, UFM's core program in Manhattan used volunteer instructors to teach over 800 courses to more than 15,000 participants. Current UFM Manhattan projects are Know-How Network, offering programs for minority, low-income, and non-formally educated persons; Folklife projects indentifying and activating folk artists and their crafts; Lou Douglas Lecture Series, focusing on human rights in 1981; Let's Recreate, providing recreational courses for the handicapped; and Community Gardens, a 2 1/2 acre plot used by over 100 families. Begun in 1977, the UFM Outreach Program now offers over 40 programs in small, rural Kansas communities. Since 1978, the Appropriate Technology Program has sponsored classes, seminars, and workshops to promote local self-reliance in energy, food, shelter, and resource management. Current areas of expertise include home energy conservation, passive solar design, solar greenhouse design and construction, and edible landscaping. (NEC)

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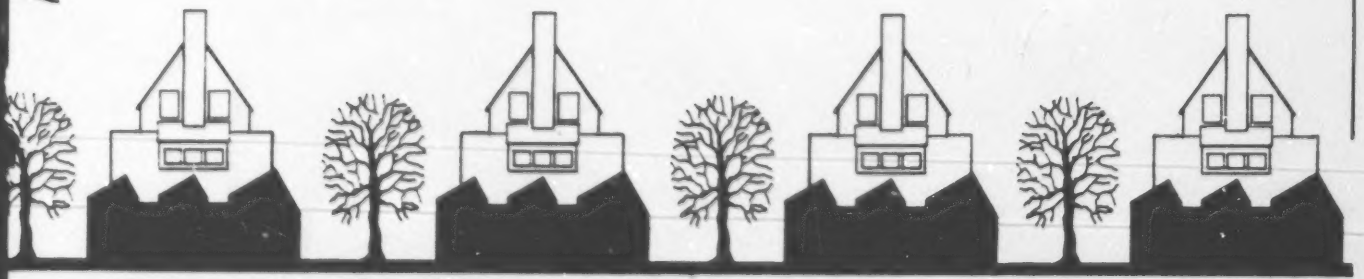

University for Man
1221 Thurston
Manhattan, Kansas 66502
(913) 532-5866

Dear Friend:

As University for Man, (UFM), begins its 15th year of operation, I want to share with you a very exciting story. In the fall of 1967, UFM was simply a concept of citizens learning from each other and involving themselves to affect the community in which they lived. Beginning from this simple concept and a one-room office, the programs described in this report are the results. They document the rapid growth of UFM and the social and educational commitment which it engenders in the community of Manhattan, throughout the State of Kansas, and in many areas of the midwest.

UFM goes beyond merely giving services and running programs. Rather we are working to develop leadership and make lasting improvements within our local communities. Sometimes UFM appears to be on the cutting edge of accepted standards —taking that one additional step to bring community members to new outcomes for positive educational change and community growth.

We are grateful for the continuing support of Kansas State University, both its Division of Continuing Education and its Student Governing Association, our most consistent backers over the years; citizens of the city of Manhattan and the state of Kansas who believe in, support and benefit from the efforts, projects and programs developed by UFM; and our donors and grantors, large and small, for making our tremendous strides possible.

UFM has a promising national future in lifelong learning, with staff members increasingly being invited to give presentations at national meetings and conferences. A founding member of the Clearinghouse for Community Based Free Standing Educational Institutions, UFM continues to play an active role in that organization and currently also works in collaboration with such national organizations as Rural America, the Coalition for Alternatives in Postsecondary Education, and the Learning Resources Network. LERN, a national organization in adult learning, serves principally as a technical assistance center for programs involved in noncredit course offerings, and has headquartered its operation with UFM for several years.

UFM's ability to play a significant role in shaping adult and community education in the 1980's is clear; so is its interest in the challenge.

Sincerely,

Sue C. Maes

Sue C. Maes
Director

"the only prerequisite is curiosity"

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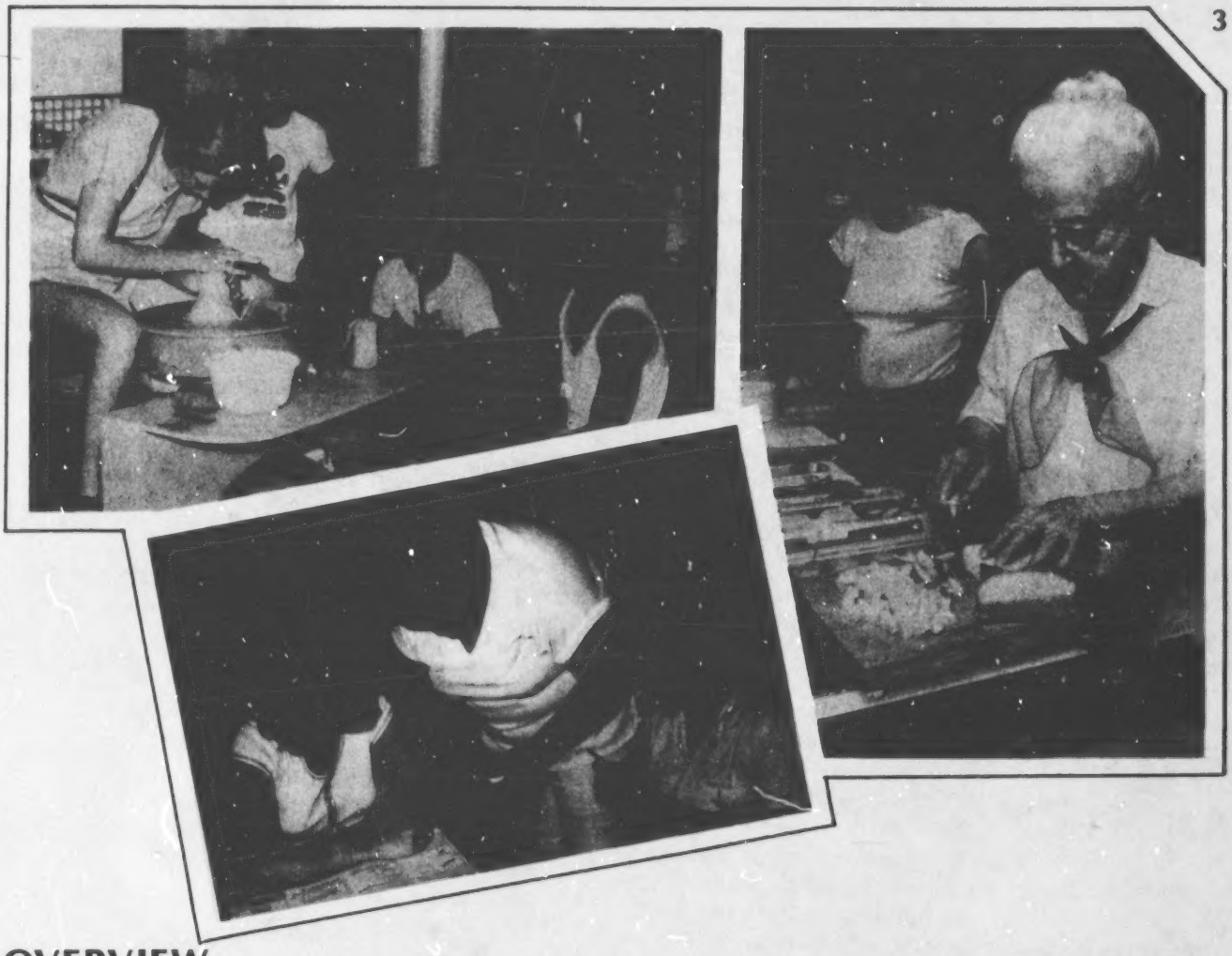

OVERVIEW

In Manhattan, Kansas, during the fall of 1967, a group of people were informally meeting at someone's home to talk about society in the year 2000. About the same time another group was devoting time to a discussion of creative expression and its explorations. One or two people from each group happened to know each other and thought that if there were two groups like this, there were probably other people in the community who would like to get together, exchange ideas, learn skills, meet new friends and perhaps have a forum for community organization around projects of common concern and interest.

After more thinking and a lot more talking, these few people approached the student government at Kansas State University, secured a few hundred dollars for a brochure and the use of an office, and put together seven courses, all of which were led by volunteers, free of grades, credits and tuition. With this simple process, a free university called the University for Man (UFM) was born in the spring of 1968.

Three years later, Science magazine wrote of UFM: "What is so striking about UFM is not what it offers, but the fact that it exists at all, and, moreover, has the approval of pretty nearly everyone at Kansas State from President James A. McCain on down. On almost any other campus, such a place would be a focus of opposition to the university administration."

No doubt the author of this comment would be even more amazed if she were to return to Kansas State today, eleven years later. University for Man has now evolved from a predominantly college student oriented organization into an agency which offers educational opportunities to diverse clientele within the larger Manhattan area, and which serves other regions of the midwest as well. To facilitate a variety of program thrusts, the organization is divided into three program units: local campus and community programs, state outreach, and appropriate technology. Some special projects cut across these divisions.

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The Manhattan Program

UFM's core program features a brochure, consisting of over 200 courses, which is produced and distributed every fall, spring and summer. The major input into this programming comes from volunteer course leaders. These leaders range in background from university professors holding doctoral degrees to Manhattan citizens with less formal education but who possess specialized skills and/or knowledge in certain areas. Program direction is also provided by a Board of Directors representative of the entire community. By coordinating an educational program which relies on volunteer instructors and schedules most events in available free space, e.g., homes, churches, schools and parks — UFM is able to provide a wide ranging system of educational experiences, responsive to the desires of the community, at a minimal cost. During 1980, more than 15,000 people participated in over 800 courses and other events sponsored by UFM in the Manhattan area.

Know-How Network

The Know-How Network grew out of University for Man's commitment to serve the broadest possible segment of the adult population in Manhattan through a system of community-based educational opportunities. While UFM had been relatively successful in reaching middle-income groups, the organization had been less successful in attracting participation from the harder to reach populations including minorities, adults without much formal education and low-income persons.

Consequently, in 1980 we undertook, in conjunction with the Adult Learning Center of Manhattan, a project aimed toward using the techniques of the free university/community education model of adult learning to address the needs of the least educated persons who have traditionally been clients in ABE-GED programs.

Growing out of this program are community-based advocacy efforts addressing employment needs of community youth and women. Program efforts have included: workshops on secretarial techniques and office machines, legal and illegal job interview questions, family budgeting and bookkeeping. Highlighting the 1982 activities will be the sponsorship of the New Light Inspirational Choir.

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Folk Arts

UFM, in conjunction with the Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, has been conducting for several years, a statewide survey of folklife in Kansas. The project involves a systematic effort to identify and document information about practicing folk artists in Kansas today.

Kansas has been called a criss-cross state where people of diverse backgrounds have passed through or settled. Although most counties are populated with people of varied backgrounds, there exist a few pockets with a specific ethnic heritage. Interviews and photographs of individuals and their work have been collected in an archive to be located at the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. Traditional artists in Kansas participate in such varied activities as quilting, woodcarving, post rock cutting, tatting, weaving, folksinging, folk dance, storytelling and much more.

In order to make Folklife come alive for the people in Kansas, the project has sought to take folk programs back to the people. Through six community education programs, we have organized workshops, hands-on demonstrations and lectures. The project has also produced a short booklet of interpretive essays on Kansas folk lore and a book called the Folklife of Kansas.

This coming May Manhattan will become the home for the two-day Kansas Folklife Festival.

Lou Douglas Lecture Series

Lou Douglas' entire life of 72 years was devoted to serving people. Known widest for his contributions to the political and legislative processes in Kansas, Dr. Douglas worked continuously for race equality, rural revitalization and world peace issues. For over 30 years, thousands of students were touched by the wisdom, wit and kindness of this distinguished professor of political science.

Lou Douglas was a founding member of the University for Man's Board of Directors, a position he held until his death in 1979. He spent much of his retirement time with the UFM program and provided needed counsel and support which was crucial to the development of UFM's program.

To honor Lou Douglas, University for Man inaugurated the Lou Douglas Lecture Series in 1980. Kansas Governor John Carlin's speech, whose theme was "Presidential Election" highlighted the 1980 series. In 1981 the timely issue of "Human Rights" brought to Kansas, former U.S. Senator Dick Clark and U.N. observer in Zimbabwe, Bill Sutherland, speaking on South Africa and former El Salvadoran Ambassador Robert White and Dr. John McFadden of the Nicaraguan Literacy crusade, speaking on Central America.

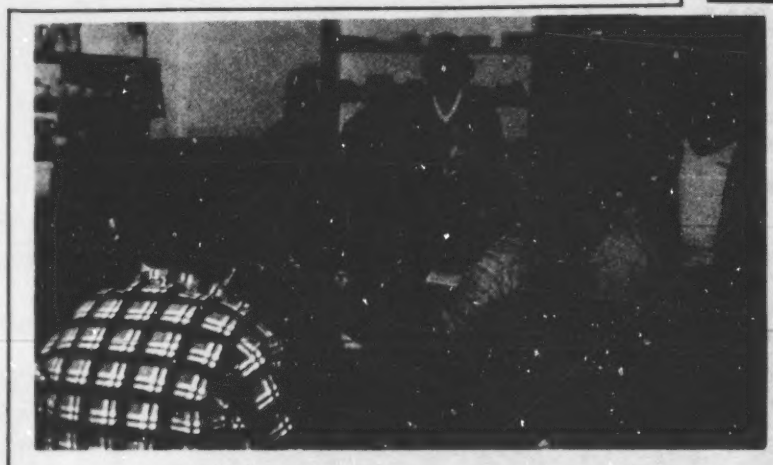
The 1982 series "Arms Control and Survival" focused on one of the most important questions of our time. Bringing an important range of expertise on this critical world issue to Kansas, UFM hopes that the Lou Douglas Lecture Series will serve as a catalyst for new ideas, new perspectives and channels for action on critical questions that affect all of us. The series included: a U.S. State Department representative for Soviet Affairs, Paul Cook; a priest, Father Daniel Berrigan; a retired naval officer, Rear Admiral Eugene Carroll; and an economist, Dr. Daniel Ellsberg.

Let's Recreate

Let's Recreate, a newly initiated undertaking, is a program of recreation designed for the handicapped adult population in the Manhattan/Riley County area. The program, offering recreational courses in the area of horticulture, drama, dance, photography, ceramics and woodworking is a logical extension of University for Man's philosophy of life-long learning as essential to human well-being. This includes the assumption that recreation as well as work and daily living skills must be approached as a lifetime pursuit.

This project is designed to provide education and socialization in a recreational activity which will develop sufficient skill to enable the participant to pursue the activity without need for further formal structure. Participants should also feel comfortable to participate in community programs and activities in their hobby area. Such a program represents a commitment to the individual's lifelong needs as well as fostering independence and productivity within a group where such attributes often are undeveloped and unrecognized.

Let's Recreate is seen as a national pilot program for communities under 35,000 in population which currently can't afford to set up specialized services for each separate type of handicap. All areas are popular lifetime avocations in which participation and success need not be limited by considerations of age, physical or mental condition. Results will be closely monitored to determine the viability of combining physically, emotionally and mentally limited individuals.



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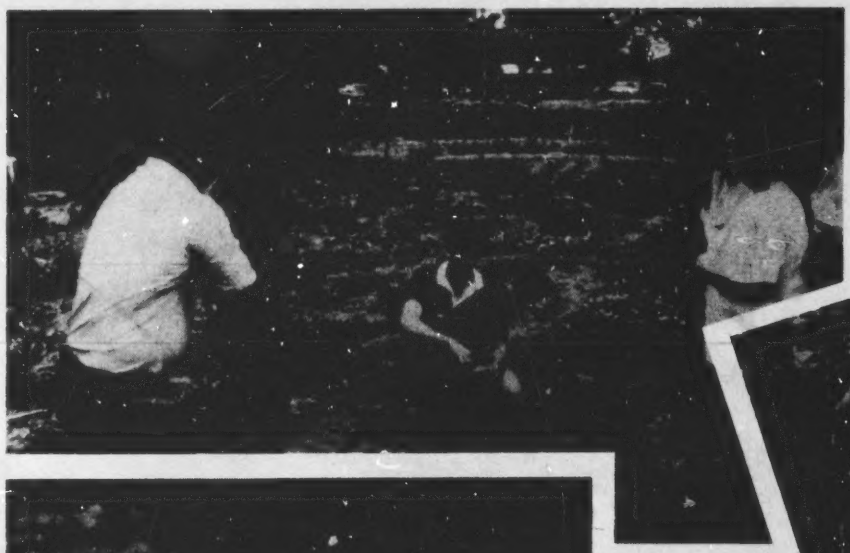
Community Gardens

The Manhattan Community Gardens, in their eighth season, have grown to encompass two and a half acres of land. Located on city-owned land leased to UFM, the gardens were previously the site of non-code substandard housing that was razed by the city. Now approximately 100 families, over fifty percent of which have incomes below the Riley County poverty level, are able to grow fresh produce supplementing their family budgets. It was estimated that the average family gardener saves an average of $367 on annual food bills. UFM and the black neighborhood center, Douglass Community Center, cooperate in the supervision and care of the gardens.

The average plot size is 400 square feet of space. There is a sliding scale fee which generates income to help support the gardens. Land, water, muich, safe pesticides, tools and horticultural advice are provided.

In addition to garden plots for families (who do not have access to land of their own), there are two special gardening programs available to the community. There is a children's gardening experience with a wide array of activities, including a garden for each child. Every Saturday morning from March through October, children meet at the gardens and work under the supervision of horticulture students from the University.

Equally popular, the garden offers a raised garden area for older people who can no longer bend over easily, but who still wish the feel of soil between their fingers.



The above five projects represent current active programs in Manhattan. Part of UFM's philosophy has been to stabilize and successfully launch projects so they can operate independently. Thus over the years UFM has been instrumental in establishing a community food cooperative grocery, a telephone crisis intervention center, an alternative elementary-junior high school, a drug education center, a senior citizen-handicapped recreation program, a farmer's market and the Flint Hills Breadbasket. It is UFM's hope that current UFM projects will develop to find their own independent life in the community.

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OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Outreach Program began in 1977, following a two-year pilot program which proved that the successful University for Man program in Manhattan could also serve small rural communities in Kansas where educational opportunities for adults were limited and scarce.

Including the pilot project, more than 40 programs have now been set up in communities as large as Abilene, population 8,000, and as small as Olsburg, population 169, from Iola in the southeast to Norton in the northwest of Kansas. The programs offer noncredit classes to the general public in which citizens share their ideas, skills and knowledge among themselves.

UFM Outreach provides the technical assistance for these communities to begin, maintain and evaluate their community education programs throughout the State of Kansas. The staff offers advice on programming in critical areas which include jobs and employment, inflation and investments, water usage and the future of the family farm.

In this current time of federal cutbacks these community education programs serve a very critical need of community service development. The programs not only promote learning but also enhance the sense of community development activities that go beyond classes and group meetings.

To focus national attention on the critical educational needs of the rural adult UFM's Outreach hosted the "National Invitational Meeting on Rural Postsecondary Education." Funded by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education twenty-eight rural educators, all of them specialists in lifelong learning met together to set the groundwork for new collaborations and responses.

Rural Libraries and the Humanities

Often viewed as a passive building for book selection, the public library is a natural community center for lifelong learning in the rural community. UFM Outreach Staff are currently involved in a new project that promotes this idea by aiding 30 rural libraries in Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma in the development of ongoing humanities programs. This project, "Rural Libraries and the Humanities," is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

On-site technical assistance and monetary assistance in the form of mini-grants are just two of the support systems to be provided to the 30 libraries who will be participating. During the planning period State Planning and Resource Boards, a group of humanities scholars and librarians, have been established in each state to provide assistance to libraries interested in conducting humanities programs. Project staff are also preparing four packaged programs: Rural Women: Yesterday and Today; Energy: How It Affects Our Lives; Our Heritage: A Link with the Past; and Literature of the Plains and Mountains. These humanities topics were identified by the rural librarians.

Through this project UFM continues to broaden its commitment to community education and the strengthening of the rural community.

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The Community Resources Act Program

In 1979 the Kansas legislature authorized the Community Resource Act which provides grants-in-aid to communities interested in initiating non-traditional community education programs. Local organizations operate the program in response to the social, recreational, cultural and educational interests of the community. They offer courses and activities, using local citizens who voluntarily share their talents and skills. This promotes community projects and often leads to community development. During the past year towns ranging in population from 189 upward have begun farmers' markets, community theaters, babysitting co-ops, a community orchestra, etc.

A total of 25 communities have been funded, ranging from Mount Sunflower Free University (Wallace County) on the high plains of Western Kansas to Prescott House, an inner-city neighborhood association in Kansas City, Kansas.

In addition to the small grants, which range from $125 to $2,500 for each community, the Act provides for technical assistance in helping individuals and organizations develop, maintain and evaluate the program. UFM's Outreach Department has contracted to provide the technical assistance which includes, but is not limited to application for CRA monies, staff training, board development, program design and financial planning for stabilization.

The CRA program has uncovered many untapped human resources, furthered community spirit and development and enhanced the quality of life in the community making Kansas towns a better place in which to live.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

In 1978, the Appropriate Technology Program (ATP) was founded in conjunction with Kansas State University's College of Architecture and Design. Based on the goal of promoting local self-reliance in the areas of energy, food, shelter and resource management, the ATP staff sponsors classes, seminars and hands-on workshops and can provide advice and technical assistance. In addition, demonstration projects in energy and technology are conducted with funding from a wide range of sources. As facilitators our aim is to decrease dependencies and increase the knowledge, skill and self-determination of people we serve.

Our areas of practical and theoretical expertise include:

- —home energy conservation
- —design/construction of energy conserving window treatments
- —passive solar design for new and existing construction
- —low-cost solar heating
- —solar greenhouse design/construction/operation
- —edible landscaping/organic gardening
- —community energy planning and action

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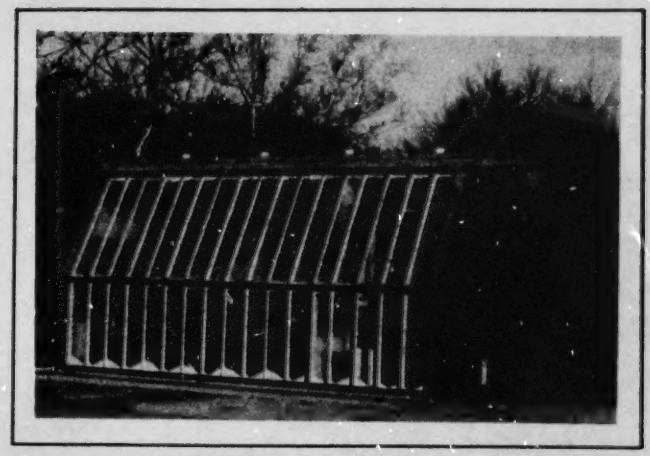
UFM Solar Addition

ATP's most successful demonstration project is the UFM Solar Addition, a 1400 square foot multi-purpose facility designed to provide a highly visible, publicly accessible demonstration of low-cost renewable energy sources for space heating and cooling, food production, water heating, waste recycling and similar energy intensive processes. Funded by the Department of Energy Small Grants Appropriate Technology Program and the City of Manhattan, the building was completed in November of 1980 and contains a solar greenhouse, lounge, appropriate technology resource library and a community workshop and tool lending library. Obtaining approximately eighty percent of its seasonal heating needs from the sun, the Solar Addition creates a comfortable environment for the many programs and populations which use it. These include:

- —senior citizen vegetable gardening
- —plant sales and horticultural therapy programs for handicapped citizens
- —internship and research by architecture and horticultural therapy students
- —open house and tours for many groups
- —woodworking co-op/classes and therapy projects

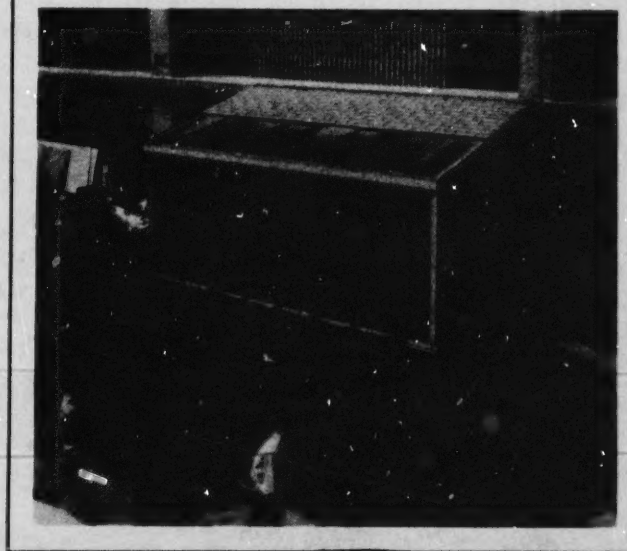
Home Energy Workshops

Because the poor and the elderly suffer first and most from rising energy costs, special attention has been given to meeting their basic needs. In the fall of 1980, the Kansas Energy Office provided funding for home energy conservation workshops in Manhattan and six surrounding communities. These "hands-on" sessions were directed toward low-cost measures for do-it-yourselfers. A pilot program funded by the Kansas State Economic Opportunity Office in October 1981 will enable UFM to conduct energy education and construction workshops which will "barn-raise" four low-cost solar remodeling options on the homes of low-income families. These working demonstrations of solar options for typical Kansas homes will create neighborhood resources for energy action.



Solar Greenhouse Training Workshops

In April 1981, the National Farmers Union Green Thumb Program, the National Center for Appropriate Technology and UFM co-sponsored a Solar Greenhouse Training Workshop. Held at UFM this regional workshop trained teams to implement local solar greenhouse projects as part of a long-term effort to promote conservation, solar energy use and the creation of comprehensive community food systems. Participants came in teams from 11 states, with each team made up of persons interested in fund-raising and job development, design and construction and greenhouse operation. In the three-day workshop, a 10'x16' greenhouse was built as an addition to the recreation room of a local apartment tower for the elderly, with planting occurring on the morning of the last day. It appears that this workshop may lead to the development of as many as 20 solar greenhouses in 11 states.



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Edible Landscape

Through funding from DOE's Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program, UFM is beginning a two-year "Edible Landscape" project which will demonstrate ways that home landscaping plans can produce more food for our daily diet, yet use less energy, water and labor than is typical now. In addition to implementing a design for the UFM site, educational materials will be developed to share with individuals, groups and other communities so that similar demonstrations can sprout up throughout the region. Involving people in the process of personal, organizational and technical change in their own backyards, streets and towns is essential if they are to have some sense of control and self-reliance in their lives.

To this end, the ATP seeks funding for projects which will offer its skills, resources and assistance to individuals and communities who want access to information which will enable them to develop a sustainable basis for society and technology.

PUBLICATIONS AND FILMS

The Non-credit Course Manual: comprehensive manual illustrating successful techniques for non-credit program operation. 300 pp.

$50.00

Grassroots Education Film: film recounting the University for Man rural Kansas community education program development. 17 minutes

$45.00 rental

The Rural Community Education Report Newsletter (quarterly): a newsletter dealing with rural trends, program ideas and issues in community education.

Individuals $5.00
Institutions $8.00

The Rural and Small Town Community Education Manual: how to set up a community education program with any size community on a limited budget. 78 pp.

$20.00

The Traditional Arts of Kansas: an exploration of the folk arts and cultural traditions of Kansas.

Projected Price $5.00

Proceedings: The National Invitational Meeting on Rural Postsecondary Education 1981.

$2.00

SLIDE SHOWS:

1. UFM Solar Addition
2. Conservation and Solar Construction Detailing
3. The Passive Solar Design Features
4. Passive Solar Greenhouse Management
5. Residential Solar Remodeling
6. A User Design Case Study

Rental costs are $15.00/set, purchase costs on request.

To purchase publications,
send check or money order to:

University for Man
1221 Thurston
Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Phone (913) 532-5866

Publications pending in 1982: Eastern Kansas Community Energy Resources: a list of organizations, individuals and newsletters; Edible Urban Landscape Designs; Solar Retrofit plans for typical Kansas Homes; UFM Solar Addition Self-Guided Tour Booklet; Windows: A kit of energy-conserving designs.

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SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT— CALENDAR YEAR 1981

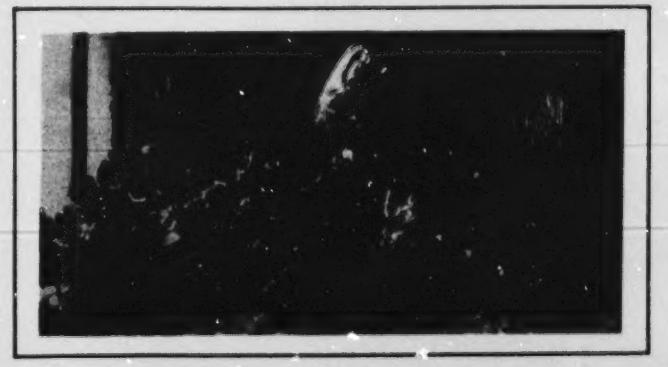
Local Campus and Community Programs:
- Kansas State University Student Governing Association
- Class fees and membership fees in pottery and photography cooperatives
- Brochure advertising revenues

Appropriate Technology Programs:
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Office of Economic Opportunity—Kansas State Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
- Membership fees in woodworking cooperative and energy programs
- Kansas Farmers Union—Green Thumb Program

Outreach Program:
- Kansas State Department of Economic Development
- National Endowment for the Humanities—Library Programs
- Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education—U.S. Department of Education

Special Projects:
- National Endowment for the Arts—Folk Arts Program
- Rehabilitation Services—U.S. Department of Education
- Kansas State Department of Education—Adult Education
- United Way of Riley County
- Kansas Arts Commission

General Support:
- Kansas State University Division of Continuing Education
- Exxon Education Foundation
- Kansas State Department of Human Resources —CETA
- Clearinghouse for Community-Based Free Standing Educational Institutions
- Donations and Contributions



ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

University for Man Executive Staff, 1982

Sue Maes, Executive Director
Joseph Rippetoe, Finance & Development Director
Julie Coates, Manhattan Program Director
Bruce Snead, Appropriate Technology Co-Director
Gary Coates, Appropriate Technology Co-Director
Christine Troxel, Outreach Program Specialist

Special Advisory Boards

Kansas Outreach Board
Manhattan Community Gardens Advisory Committee
Friends of Lou Douglas Committee
Know-How Network Advisory Board

Board of Directors

James Benjamin, Superintendent
U.S.D. No. 383

Stephan Bollman, Professor
Family and Child Development, KSU

James Boyer, Pastor
Fellowship Temple

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Community Teacher

Charles Green
Attorney at Law

Dorothy Koepsel
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James McCain, President Emeritus
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Caroline Peine, Assistant Dean
Center for Student Development, KSU

Edward Seaton, Publisher
The Manhattan Mercury

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